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MAY
NO. 32

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AUTHORITY

HOUSE of SECRETS

A
**MARK
MERLIN**
MYSTERY

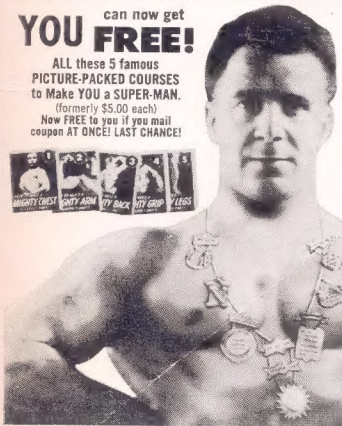
W-WE'RE BEING
LOWERED INTO A
STRANGE WORLD
OF *WEIRD*
CREATURES!



THE WORLD'S GREATEST MOLDER OF HANDSOME HE-MEN and CHAMPS out of WEAKLINGS says

YOU can now get FREE!

ALL these 5 famous PICTURE-PACKED COURSES to Make YOU a SUPER-MAN. (formerly \$5.00 each)
Now FREE to you if you mail coupon AT ONCE! LAST CHANCE!



"NO MATTER WHAT YOUR AGE I'll show you, by my quick, easy SECRETS

How to GAIN OR LOSE UP TO 50 LBS. FAST

like my pupils here did and THOUSANDS do now."



17 YEAR OLD SILL
"I GAINED 60 LBS. OF SHAPELY MIGHTY MUSCLES."
BEFORE
mailing coupon, I was a 125 lb., 6 ft., skinny weakling.
says JOHN SILL.

YOU can add 7 inches to your CHEST 3 1/2 inches to each ARM and the rest in proportion just as I did.

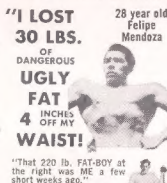
YOU can WIN the 18" tall SILVER TROPHY with name on it, A GOLD MEDAL, \$100, as I did."

45 year old FATHER and 18 year old SON — now Pals — train JOWETT way together!



"Both gained pounds of powerful muscles. Advise any fathers and sons to send for the Jowett courses without foolish delay."
—LARRY CAMPBELL

JOWETT INSTITUTE, Dept. NC-05



28 year old Felipe Mendoza
"I LOST 30 LBS. OF DANGEROUS UGLY FAT 4 INCHES OFF MY WAIST!"
"That 220 lb. FAT-BOY at the right was ME a few short weeks ago."
JOWETT streamlined my body, made me a new man: my 47" chest my 32" waist 15" difference attracts admiration at the beach.

A WINNING CHAMPION and SPORTSMAN.
"I am just 41 years YOUNG now,



I LOST POUNDS OF FAT FAST. Everyone, regardless of age, should send for your courses. Soon they'll be as proud as I am."
Paul Lange

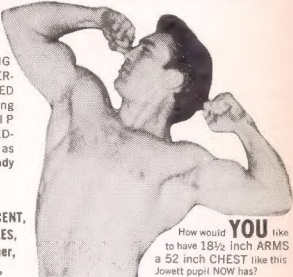
220 Fifth Ave., New York 1, N.Y.

SKINNY OR FAT, 15, 20, 30 OR 40 YEARS OF AGE I'LL BUILD YOU INTO A NEW ATHLETIC MIGHTY-MUSCLED ALL-MALE HE-MAN

In 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day, as I have done to MILLIONS in 35 YEARS."

GEORGE JOWETT

4 TIMES WINNER WORLD'S STRONGEST and MOST PERFECTLY DEVELOPED MAN title, wearing CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS, and MEDALS honoring him as "WORLD'S BEST Body Builder"



This now MAGNIFICENT, MODERN HERCULES, 26 year old teacher, William Butler,

says to YOU, "No matter WHAT your age, I advise you, SEND for the JOWETT WONDER PICTURE COURSES at once.

Under the World's GREATEST BODY-BUILDER, George Jowett, I now have 18 1/2" ARMS, a 52" CHEST my STRENGTH has greatly improved. So have my sports. I have won titles like 'Mr. Virginia', 'Mr. State Y.M.C.A.', etc."

YOU can soon be a HERO of MEN like Butler is and an IDOL of WOMEN in a few weeks!

Yes! In just 10 THRILLING MINUTES a day, in the SECRET of YOUR OWN ROOM at home, MY RAPID-FIRE, EASY as ABC FAMOUS PICTURE METHODS will start building you THE VERY FIRST NIGHT. I'll show you How to Mold 16 INCH ARMS of MIGHT, a big, deep 45 INCH CHEST housing TIRELESS LUNGS, WIDE MANLY SHOULDERS — a BROAD BRAWNY BACK, tapering to a SLENDER WAIST with punch-proof STOMACH MUSCLES, LEGS of RUNNING POWER.

WOMEN always say, "I just adore JOWETT ALL-MALE HE-MEN".

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are now. If you're in your teens, twenties, thirties or forties, I'll show you in just 10 thrilling minutes in your home, how you can make yourself over by the easy, quick method I turned myself from wreck to WORLD CHAMPION and turned MILLIONS of others into all-male he-men!

YES! You'll ADD INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLES to your ARMS, deepen your CHEST, broaden your BACK and SHOULDERS. FROM MEAD to HEELS you'll gain SIZE, POWER, LIGHTNING SPEED ENDURANCE. You'll become a SUCCESSFUL HE-MAN in LOOKS and ACTS — a WINNER in EVERYTHING — Athletics, Business, studies.



BEFORE mailing coupon this JOWETT pupil was this 90 lb. skeleton. Gained 70 lbs. Made football team.
"I'm proud of you now, Tony!"
Pascaleira
28 JOWETT lbs.

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING, Dept. NC-05
220 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N.Y.

Dear George: Mail me FREE all 5 HE-MAN Building Picture Courses. Include PHOTO BOOK of FAMOUS STRONG MEN.

☐ I enclose 10c for mailing and handling.
I am under no other obligation.
I'm checking everything I need to give me the kind of body I want.
☐ I want to gain _____ lbs. (fill in). ☐ Triple my strength.
☐ I want to streamline my body, get rid of flabby fat.
☐ I want to add inches of muscle to my ☐ ARMS ☐ CHEST
☐ SHOULDERS ☐ POWERFUL LEGS ☐ SLIM WAIST
☐ I want to become a winning athlete. ☐ I want new pep.

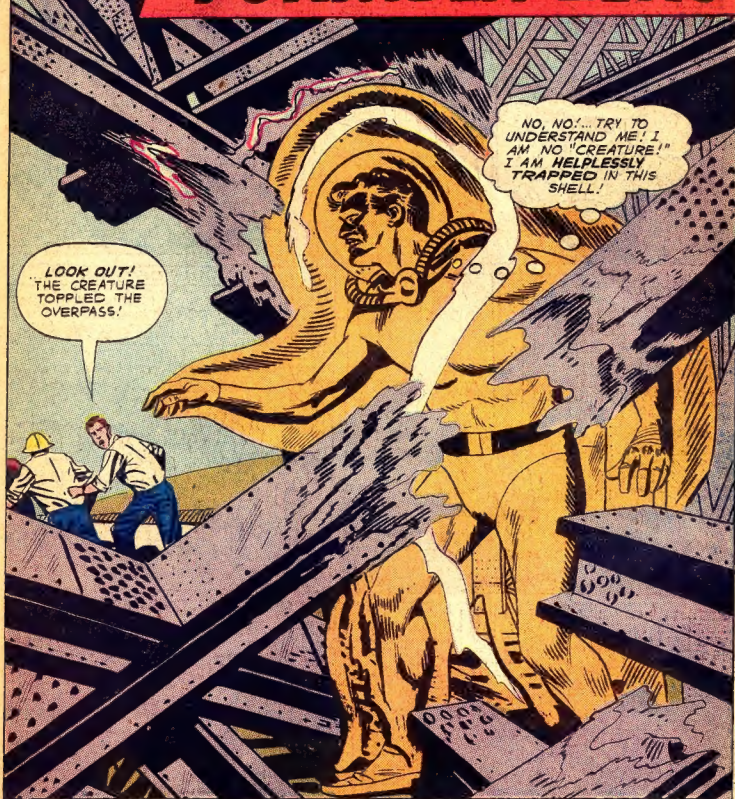
NAME _____ AGE _____
(please print or write plainly)
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

FREE

\$80 worth of Sports, Self-defense, Strongman Stunts Courses Apparatus. Let me know how to get these FREE!

WHAT WAS THIS NEW
FORM OF "LIFE" HE
HAD CREATED?
TOO LATE HE
LEARNED THE
ANSWER, WHEN
HE BECAME A...

PRISONER OF FORMULA ZERO



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HOUSE OF SECRETS



ONE EVENING, IN THE LABORATORY OF RONALD D. HAMPTON, NOTED BIOCHEMIST...

SCIENCE CIRCLES ARE ABUZZ WITH REPORTS OF SOME SORT OF LIVING GELATIN CELLS YOU'VE PRODUCED, DR. HAMPTON...

AND YOUR EDITOR WOULD LIKE A STORY, EH? WELL, FORMULA ZERO, AS I CALL IT, IS FAR FROM PERFECTED...

...BUT I CAN DEMONSTRATE ITS PHENOMENAL EFFECT ON ANYTHING METALLIC! WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I COVER THIS ORDINARY LIGHT BULB WITH THE FORMULA...



... THEN FIRE THIS WEAPON AT IT!



THE SCIENTIST TAKES DEAD AIM, AND...

GOOD HEAVENS, DR. HAMPTON! THE BULLET HITS ITS TARGET--BUT DIDN'T BREAK THE BULB!

PRECISELY...IT WAS CAUGHT BY THE PROTECTIVE SUBSTANCE! BUT LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!

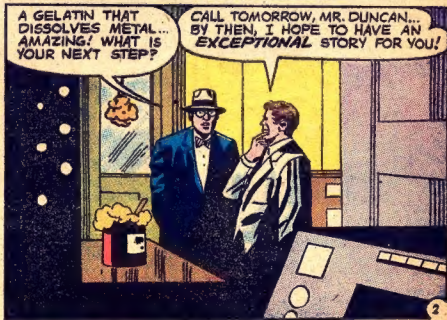


SEE?...THE FORMULA NOT ONLY TRAPPED THE BULLET--BUT IS ABSORBING IT!

MY WORD, YES! IT'S DISSOLVING IT LIKE SUGAR IN WATER!

A GELATIN THAT DISSOLVES METAL... AMAZING! WHAT IS YOUR NEXT STEP?

CALL TOMORROW, MR. DUNCAN... BY THEN, I HOPE TO HAVE AN EXCEPTIONAL STORY FOR YOU!



LATER, WHEN HAMPTON IS ALONE IN THE LAB...

I'M WEARING NOTHING METALLIC... EVEN MY BREATHING APPARATUS IS MADE OF PLASTIC! NOW TO SEE HOW FORMULA ZERO PROTECTS THE HUMAN BODY AGAINST METALLIC INJURIES!



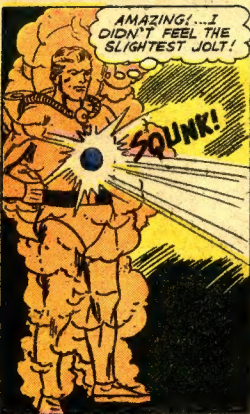
WHEN FULLY COVERED, THE SCIENTIST STANDS BEFORE AN AUTOMATIC PITCHING DEVICE, AND...

HERE GOES... I'LL NOTE THE IMPACT-- AND ANY INJURIES!



AMAZING!... I DIDN'T FEEL THE SLIGHTEST JOLT!

SQUUNK!



AND, WITHIN SECONDS, THE METAL SPHERE COMPLETELY DISINTEGRATES!

FORMULA ZERO IS AN ABSOLUTE SUCCESS-- SO FAR! TOMORROW, I SHALL TRY THE IMPACT OF HEAVIER METAL OBJECTS AT HIGHER SPEEDS!



BUT WHEN HE TRIES TO REMOVE THE PROTECTIVE JELLY...

EH--? THIS STUFF CLINGS LIKE GLUE!



AFTER TRYING VARIOUS CLEANSING AGENTS TO NO AVAIL...

NOT ONLY CAN'T I REMOVE THE STUFF, BUT--GOOD GRIEF!--IT SEEMS TO BE MOVING!

YES...IT'S CHANGING ITS SHAPE!

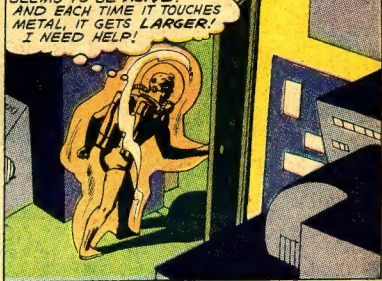
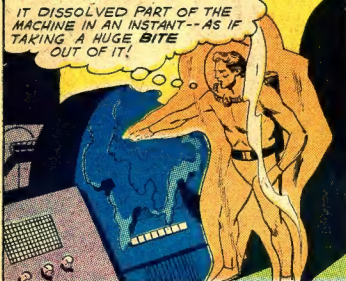
BY JUPITER--THE STUFF SEEMS ALIVE!



STARTLED, DAZED, HAMPTON REACHES OUT FOR SUPPORT, ONLY TO DISCOVER...

IT DISSOLVED PART OF THE MACHINE IN AN INSTANT--AS IF TAKING A HUGE BITE OUT OF IT!

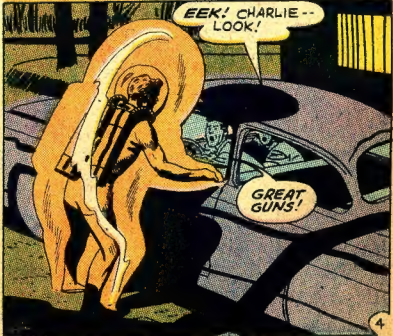
I'M A PRISONER INSIDE THIS THING...A THING THAT SEEMS TO BE ALIVE! AND EACH TIME IT TOUCHES METAL, IT GETS LARGER! I NEED HELP!



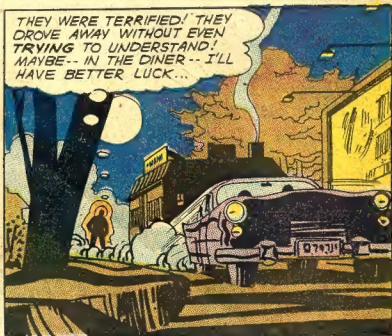
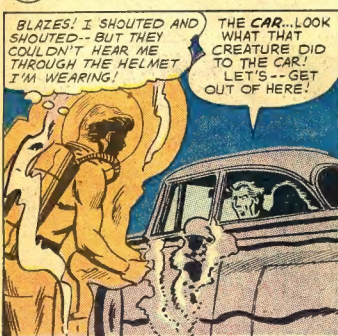
OUT INTO THE DARKNESS HE TRUDGES, TOWARD THE FIRST BUILDING HE SEES...

THAT ALL-NIGHT DINER...I CAN'T REMOVE THE FORMULA MYSELF--BUT MAYBE OTHERS CAN! SURELY, THEY CAN FIND A WAY...

EEK! CHARLIE--LOOK!



GREAT GUNS!





HOUSE OF SECRETS



WITHIN MINUTES, RADIO, TICKER TAPE AND TELEVISION SPREAD THE STARTLING NEWS...

POLICE BULLETS HAD NO EFFECT ON THE THING...

STRANGE
CREATURE
SPOTTED...

...MORE POLICE HAVE BEEN CALLED IN FOR A WIDESPREAD SEARCH FOR THE CREATURE...

AT DAYBREAK, THE DISTRAUGHT SCIENTIST-- STILL A PRISONER OF THE EERIE FORMULA-- STUMBLES FORTH FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE WOODS...

I MUST GET HELP SOON! THE AIR IN MY TANKS IS GIVING OUT...

MEANWHILE, AT HAMPTON'S LAB...

-- THEN, AFTER HAVING HEARD A DESCRIPTION OF THE "CREATURE," I RECALLED HAMPTON'S EXPERIMENTS WITH FORMULA ZERO!

AND--?

I BELIEVE THE "CREATURE" IS HAMPTON--ENCASED IN HIS OWN FORMULA...PERHAPS HELPLESSLY ENCASED! NOTHING METALLIC CAN STOP HIM--I'VE SEEN EVIDENCE OF THAT!

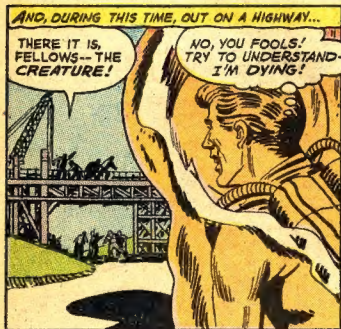
THEN-- WHAT CAN WE DO?

PERHAPS ANALYZE FORMULA ZERO--AND TRY TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING THAT CAN PENETRATE AND REMOVE IT!

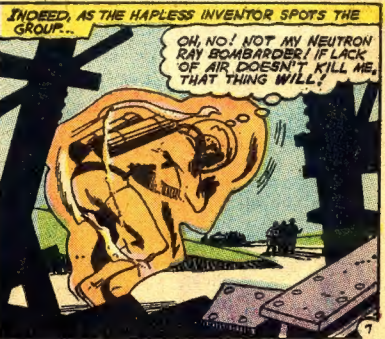
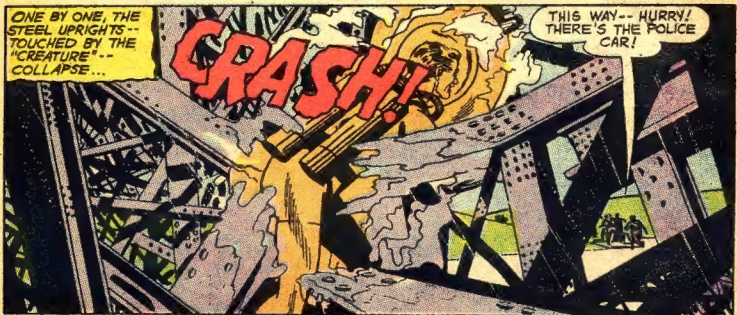
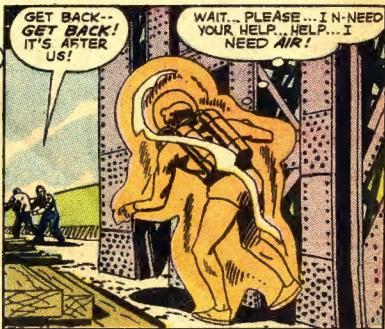
ALL RIGHT--LET'S GET STARTED!

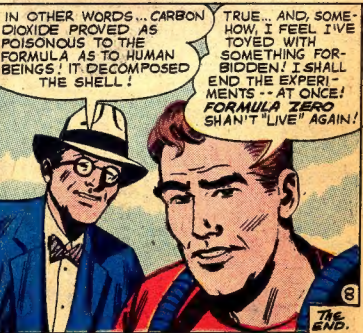
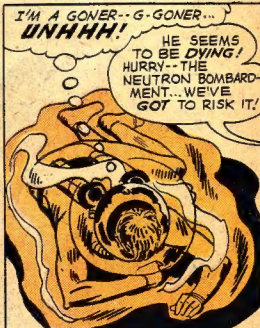


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NO, YOU FOOLS! TRY TO UNDERSTAND-- I'M DYING!





You Receive

2 GIANT BATTLEFIELDS (a total size of 3 square feet
(Sp. boards in the Pacific Ocean beautifully colored))

88 PIECE TASK FORCE

- 4 AIRCRAFT CARRIERS 24 PLANES
- 4 DESTROYERS 8 LANDING BARGES
- 4 BATTLESHIPS 4 HEADQUARTERS
- 16 TANKS WITH MOVEABLE TURRETS
- 24 PILL BOXES

(These authentic toys may now be purchased separately
due to many requests... see coupon below)

375 RED MARKERS enough to
record the most savage bombings
and shellings

• SIMPLE DIRECTIONS etc. for 2 or 4
players, from 8 to 80 who
enjoy being armchair generals.

HELEN OF TOY, CO. NO C.O.D.'s
REGO PARK 74, NEW YORK DEPT. 37
RUSH ME THE 88-PIECE TASK FORCE
TOYS ONLY

For which I am enclosing 75c

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____

ZONE _____ STATE _____

AMERICA'S MOST EXCITING WAR GAME

ONLY

\$1.25
COMPLETE
PRICE

TASK FORCE

RED - U.S. POTENT OFFICE

Tension runs high in a big ball battle battle 'game' with all elements participating on a 3' x 3' and air five team best able to strike quickly place his 375 red and a red his firing - it be the only survivor of this terrific game

There is no imagination necessary here! You get the equipment, the battlefield and the rest on how to locate. Occupy and destroy the enemy. This is a full on her juvenile game it is actually playing and 'victorious' enjoyed by members of our real Armed Forces

TASK FORCE is in the stores for \$3.00 but to offer it to you for the amazing price of \$1.25 we have omitted the bulky box, wheels and rest of it, saving most expensive and unnecessary costs. You receive the very same playing pleasure and save \$1.75 by ordering directly from the manufacturer. Won't the gang be surprised when you show them TASK FORCE and when you say you got it for only \$1.25 they will all want one SO ACT NOW!

HELEN OF TOY, CO. NO C.O.D.'s
REGO PARK 74, NEW YORK DEPT. 37

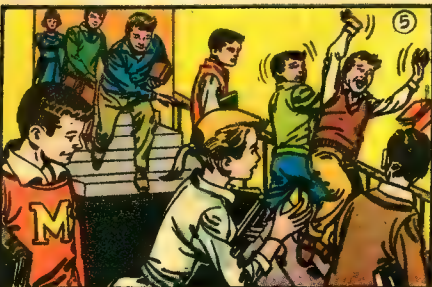
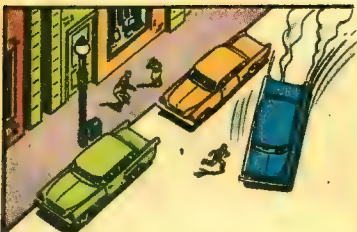
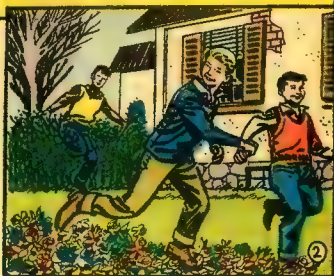
PLEASE RUSH TASK FORCE to me as I can't wait to take command of my combat group (want game) for which I am enclosing \$1.25 for each game in check, cash or money order. We are proud of our price and if you are not delighted we will cheerfully refund the purchase price if you return the game(s) within one week.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____

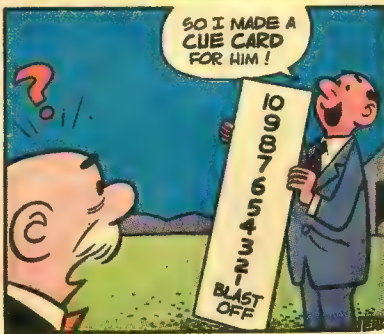
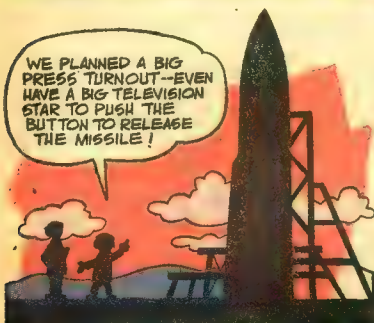
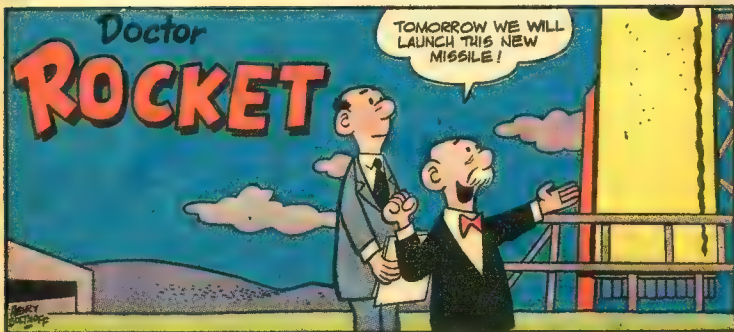
ZONE _____ STATE _____
CANADIAN ORDERS \$1.50

WHAT'S WRONG *with* THESE PICTURES?

(ANSWERS IN LAST PANEL, UPSIDE DOWN)



- ANSWERS :**
1. SOMETHING IS VERY WRONG WHEN NOBODY GETS UP TO GIVE A SEAT TO AN OLD MAN, OR A WOMAN LOADED DOWN WITH PACKAGES;
 2. TRAMPLING OVER FLOWERS BEDS AND BUSHES SHOWS DISRESPECT FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY;
 3. DARTING ACROSS A STREET FROM BETWEEN TWO CARS IS A HAZARD FOR BOTH PEDESTRIAN AND MOTORIST;
 4. BEING A LITTERBUG DOESN'T HELP KEEP YOUR CITY CLEAN;
 5. IT'S NOT ONLY RUDE TO CROWD AND PUSH—BUT DOWNRIGHT DANGEROUS.



WAS HE A REAL PERSON... OR WAS HE A MERE CHARACTER IN A STRANGE AND INCREDIBLE BOOK? FOR CARL JADOR, THE EERIE EVENTS PILED UP SO QUICKLY THAT HE HIMSELF BEGAN TO DOUBT HIS OWN IDENTITY WHEN HE WAS CONFRONTED BY...

THE CREATURES from the BOOK

THE VILLAGERS INSIST SOME STRANGE ENCHANTMENT BROUGHT ME TO LIFE! BUT I *KNOW* THAT'S ABSURD... AS RIDICULOUS AND IMPOSSIBLE AS THE STRANGE BEINGS IN THIS BOOK!



CARL JADOR WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO JOYFUL IF HE COULD HAVE ANTICIPATED THE EVENTS THAT WOULD FOLLOW HIS INHERITANCE OF THE VAST ESTATE AND CASTLE...

NO MEMBER OF MY FAMILY HAS LIVED AT GRAINTZ FOR 300 YEARS. I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO VISIT THE CASTLE...



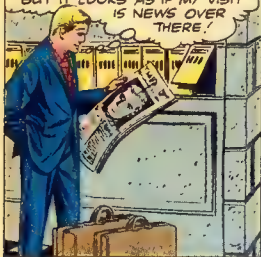
THE VILLAGERS ARE AS NAIVE AS THE WERE THREE CENTURIES AGO IF THEY STILL BELIEVE IN GNOMES AND HOBGOBLINS LIKE *THIS*!

THIS IS PANDRAN, MARSH-DWELLING HOBGOBLIN WHICH VILLAGERS BELIEVE STILL HAUNTS LOCALE.



TWO WEEKS LATER, CARL IS READY TO LEAVE...

WHAT'S THIS--SENT TO ME BY A PRESS AGENCY? I CAN'T UNDERSTAND POSGRAVIAN, BUT IT LOOKS AS IF MY VISIT IS NEWS OVER THERE!



NOT LONG AFTER, A SETTING SUN CASTS GROTESQUE SHADOWS AS HE REACHES GRAINTZ...

NO TRAINS... NO AUTOMOBILES... NOT EVEN A MODERN ROAD! THIS VILLAGE SURE IS SOMETHING OUT OF THE PAST!



SHORTLY, AT THE VILLAGE INN...

I'M CARL JADOR! I'D LIKE TO RENT A ROOM FOR THE NIGHT, UNTIL...
HUM? WHY--WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME?



WORDLESSLY, THE INNKEEPER RUNS INSIDE TO FETCH A BOOK, AND...

WHAT DID HE SHOW HER IN THAT BOOK TO MAKE THEM LOOK AT ME HORRIFIED? WH--WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

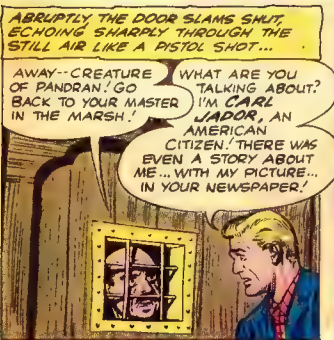


ABRUPTLY THE DOOR SLAMS SHUT, ECHOING SHARPLY THROUGH THE STILL AIR LIKE A PISTOL SHOT...

AWAY--CREATURE OF PANDRAN! GO BACK TO YOUR MASTER IN THE MARSH!

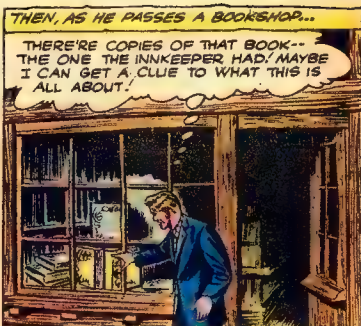
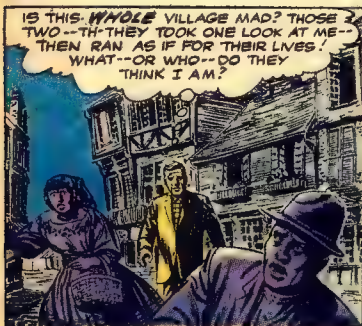
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

I'M CARL JADOR, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN! THERE WAS EVEN A STORY ABOUT ME... WITH MY PICTURE... IN YOUR NEWSPAPER!

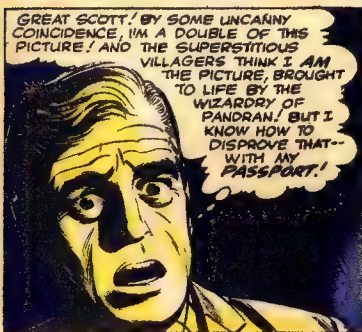
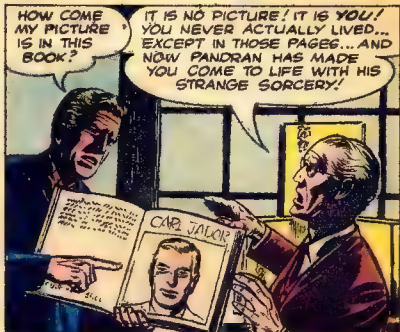
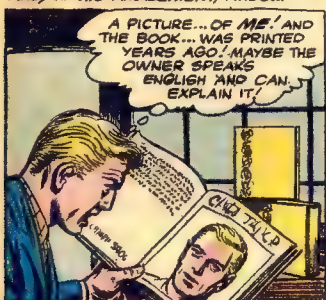


IT'S NO USE! IN SOME WAY, I'M THE VICTIM OF SOME VILLAGE SUPERSTITION! I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SLEEP AT THE CASTLE! I'LL COME BACK TOMORROW TO PICK UP MY LUGGAGE... AND MAYBE FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.





DASHING INSIDE, CARL SEIZES A VOLUME, AND, TO HIS AMAZEMENT, FINDS...





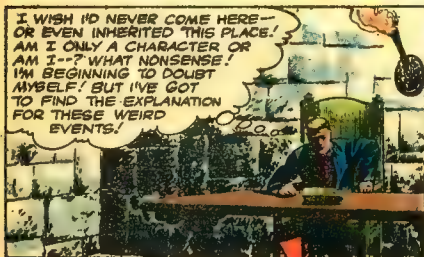
HOUSE OF SECRETS



FOR A MOMENT, CARL'S MIND REELS, AND THEN, SUDDENLY, HIS FACE LIGHTS WITH HOPE AS HE RACES TOWARD THE CASTLE...



ONCE INSIDE, CARL EAGERLY SCANS THE GALLERY OF DUST-LADEN PORTRAITS...



APPREHENSIVELY, CARL THROWS OPEN THE DOOR...

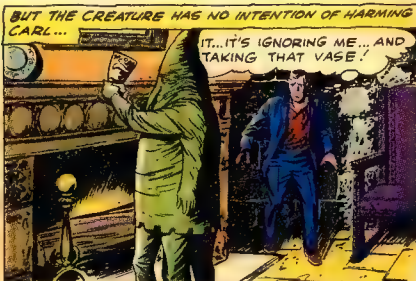


SUDDENLY, SHARP RAPS ON THE DOOR REVERBERATE THROUGH THE VAST, EMPTY CHAMBER...





GET AWAY FROM ME!



BUT THE CREATURE HAS NO INTENTION OF HARMING CARL...

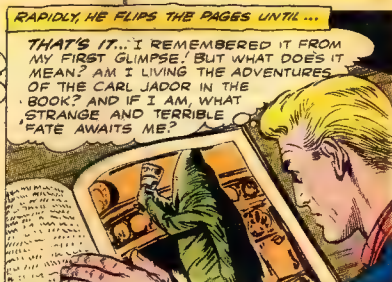
IT...IT'S IGNORING ME... AND TAKING THAT VASE!



WITHOUT A WORD OF EXPLANATION, THE CREATURE STALKS OUT...

WH-WHERE DID I SEE IT BEFORE? WH-WHY DID IT SEEM FAMILIAR TO ME? I KNOW! IT WAS IN THE BOOK!

SLAM



RAPIDLY, HE FLIPS THE PAGES UNTIL...

THAT'S IT... I REMEMBERED IT FROM MY FIRST GLIMPSE! BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN? AM I LIVING THE ADVENTURES OF THE CARL JADOR IN THE BOOK? AND IF I AM, WHAT STRANGE AND TERRIBLE FATE AWAITS ME?



THAT NIGHT, EERIE BEINGS FLIT THROUGH CARL'S NIGHTMARE...



AND AS DAWN FINALLY FILTERS INTO THE CASTLE...

MAYBE I'D BETTER LEAVE THIS ACCURSED PLACE! SOME KIND OF SORCERY MUST BE AT WORK!

BUT, SUDDENLY, THE SWAMP MISTS PART TO REVEAL ANOTHER STUNNING SURPRISE...



DID--DID THAT ALSO APPEAR IN THE BOOK?



ONCE AGAIN, HE ANXIOUSLY RIFFLES THROUGH ITS PAGES...

HERE IT IS...IN THIS HORRIBLE BOOK, BUT IT'S THE END! DOES THAT MEAN THESE GHOSTLY EXPERIENCES ARE COMING TO THEIR FINISH? AND THEN WHAT FEARFUL FATE IS IN STORE FOR ME?



FRESH GREEN PAINT ON MY HAND! HOW DID THAT GET THERE?... WAIT! I THINK I HAVE THE ANSWER, AND NOW I KNOW WHAT TO DO!

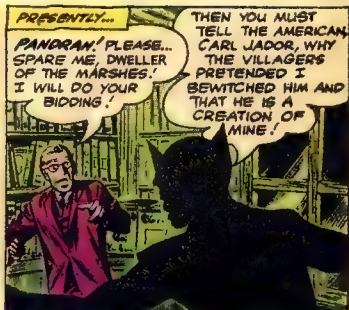


I SHOULD FIND EVERYTHING I NEED HERE! THESE DRAPES SHOULD HELP, FOR A START!





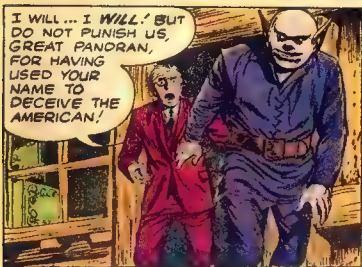
LATER, A STRANGE AND AWESOME FIGURE SLIPS OUT OF THE CASTLE'S BACK DOOR...



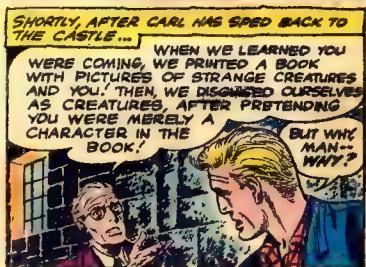
PRESENTLY...

PANDRAN! PLEASE... SPARE ME, DWELLER OF THE MARSHES! I WILL DO YOUR BIDDING!

THEN YOU MUST TELL THE AMERICAN, CARL JADOR, WHY THE VILLAGERS PRETENDED I BEWITCHED HIM AND THAT HE IS A CREATION OF MINE!



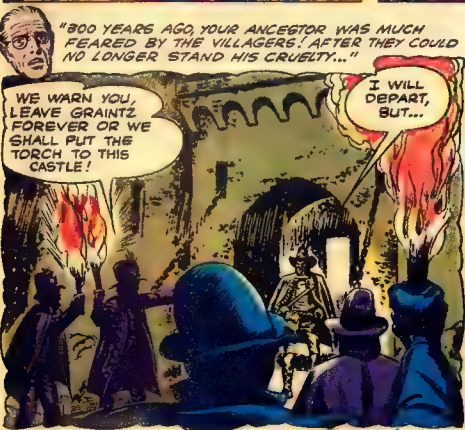
I WILL... I WILL! BUT DO NOT PUNISH US, GREAT PANDRAN, FOR HAVING USED YOUR NAME TO DECEIVE THE AMERICAN!



SHORTLY, AFTER CARL HAS SPED BACK TO THE CASTLE...

WHEN WE LEARNED YOU WERE COMING, WE PRINTED A BOOK WITH PICTURES OF STRANGE CREATURES AND YOU. THEN, WE DISGUISED OURSELVES AS CREATURES, AFTER PRETENDING YOU WERE MERELY A CHARACTER IN THE BOOK!

BUT WHY, MAN-- WHY?



"800 YEARS AGO, YOUR ANCESTOR WAS MUCH FEARED BY THE VILLAGERS! AFTER THEY COULD NO LONGER STAND HIS CRUELTY..."

WE WARN YOU, LEAVE GRAINTZ FOREVER OR WE SHALL PUT THE TORCH TO THIS CASTLE!

I WILL DEPART, BUT...



...ONE DAY, A DESCENDANT WILL RETURN AND AVENGE ME ON THIS ENTIRE VILLAGE!

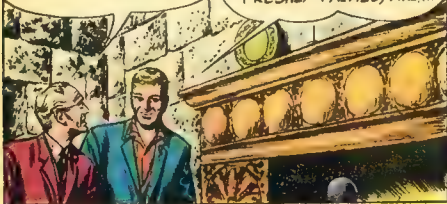


HOUSE OF SECRETS



WE HOPED TO FRIGHTEN YOU INTO LEAVING... TO PREVENT YOU FROM FULFILLING THE PROPHECY OF YOUR ANCESTOR! BUT MIGHTY PANDRAN INTERVENED...

NO, I DID! YOU ALMOST SUCCEEDED IN YOUR PLAN... EXCEPT THAT YOU MADE ONE LITTLE SLIP! THAT LAST "CREATURE" WHICH VISITED ME WAS FRESHLY PAINTED, AND...



...WHEN I TOUCHED IT, SOME OF THE PAINT CAME OFF ON MY HAND! I KNEW AT ONCE IT WAS A HOAX, BUT, NOT KNOWING WHY IT WAS PERPETRATED, I DECIDED TWO COULD PLAY AT THE SAME GAME!

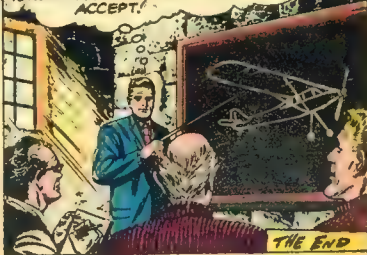


I DRESSED AS PANDRAN TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT. YOU NEED HAVE NO FEARS OF PANDRAN--NOR OF ME! I CAME TO HELP THE VILLAGE, BY INTRODUCING MODERN WAYS AND TURNING THIS PLACE INTO A SCHOOL!

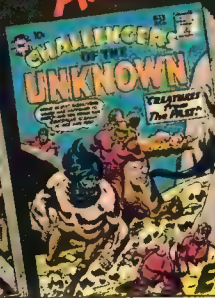


MONTHS LATER, IN THE CASTLE...

NOW THAT THEY'VE LEARNED ABOUT THE REAL WONDERS OF OUR WORLD, THEY'RE BELIEVING LESS AND LESS IN THE SUPERNATURAL WONDERS THEIR IGNORANCE HAD LED THEM TO ACCEPT!



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NOW
ON SALE!

ON SALE
MARCH 29th

MYTHS OF THE MOON

TO the Greeks and Romans, the moon was considered a goddess, and worshippers referred to the orb as "Queen of the Night." The Greeks called her Selene, which is why moon geography today is called selenography. The Romans called her Luna, and from their belief in moon madness comes the word "lunatic."

But most of the Asiatics worshipped male moon gods, as did many American Indian tribes.

There have been more superstitious beliefs regarding the moon than anything else in the sky or on earth.

In certain folklore, it was believed that ghosts walk under the full moon, and that lunacy can strike from excessive exposure to the moonlight.

Here are some other ancient notions that some superstitious people still believe:

That if you show a new coin to a new moon, you will prosper.

That the dark of the moon is a time for nefarious deeds, and a good time to stay home behind locked doors.

That a red moon is an omen of evil.

That witches fly and dwarfs play by moonlight.

That the man in the moon was banished there for stealing cabbages on Christmas Eve.

The first imaginary trip to the moon on record was accidental. According to the Roman legend, a ship was caught at sea in a whirlwind and hurled into space where it remained for seven days and seven nights. On the eighth day, it reached a "shining island" which the voyagers soon discovered was the moon.

On the moon dwelled strange three-headed birds, ruled by Endymion, according to this version. But another

hair-raising account of lunar life had the sphere inhabited by monstrous serpents who lived for only 24 hours.

Voyages to the moon occupied the thoughts of writers from earliest periods. In a wildly imaginative story written by a British author in 1638, an intrepid explorer built a space vehicle drawn by a team of wild geese. It took the space-traveler eleven days to make the trip, and when he got there, he found that the moon was inhabited by gigantic men who called themselves Lunarians.

A French writer, Cyrano de Bergerac, also contributed to early moon travel in a book titled "Voyage to the Moon," published in 1649. But Cyrano's mode of travel was far more advanced. Instead of goose-power, he fired off his moon vehicle with a rocket containing fireworks. It took two years for his hero to reach the moon.

In comparatively modern times, in the 1800's to be exact, additions were made to the world of moon fiction by men who normally dealt in science and facts.

A German astronomer, in 1822, shocked the people of his time by revealing that he had actually observed a great walled city built by intelligent beings on the moon.

And in 1835, Richard Adams Locke, a New York newspaperman, perpetrated what has become known as "the great moon hoax." Locke wrote in a series of newspaper articles about a British astronomical team in South Africa that had observed "bat-people on the moon."

What does modern science have to say about the moon and its myths? There are no moon-men or monsters, say the savants. In fact, they declare, the only time any intelligent being will inhabit the moon is when men from earth arrive there.



ONLY ONE MAN ON EARTH--MARK MERLIN, THE FAMED SUPERNATURAL SLEUTH--
WOULD WILLINGLY ENTER THIS LAND WHICH NO ONE EVER DREAMED EXISTED. YET,
NOT EVEN MARK COULD ANTICIPATE THE IMPOSSIBLE PERILS AWAITING HIM ON...

the TEST TUBE WORLD



GREAT
THUNDER! THE
CREATURES ARE
HURLING THOSE
GIANT GEOMETRIC
BOULDERS, TRYING
TO FIND US!

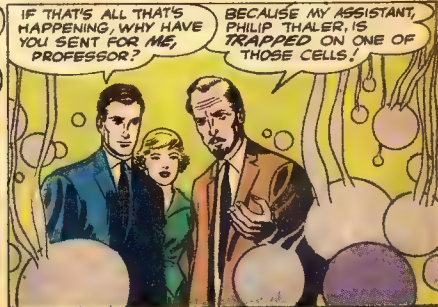
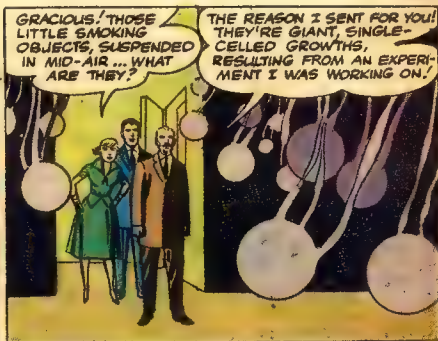
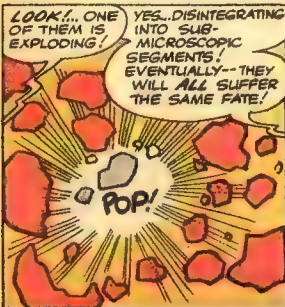
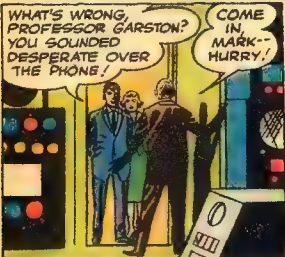
OH, MARK...
WHAT CHANCE
HAVE WE GOT
AGAINST SUCH
SUPER-POWER?



HOUSE OF SECRETS



AN URGENT SUMMONS BRINGS MARK MERLIN, FAMED SLEUTH OF THE SUPERNATURAL, AND HIS SECRETARY, ELSA, SCURRYING TO THE LABORATORY OF AN OLD FRIEND...



"WHEN THALER FAILED TO EMERGE AFTER SOME TIME, I ENTERED, JUST IN TIME TO SEE..."

A DOLL-SIZED FIGURE -- STILL SHRINKING -- BEING DRAWN ONTO THE CELL!



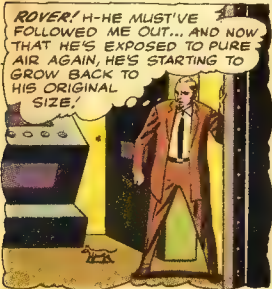
"AS I GAPED WILDLY ABOUT, I QUICKLY SURMISED WHAT HAD HAPPENED..."

WH-WHEN THE FUMES BECAME CONCENTRATED IN THIS AIR-TIGHT ROOM, THEY STARTED TO SHRINK EVERY ORGANIC THING-- INCLUDING THALER!



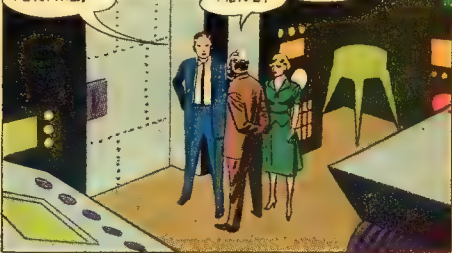
"WHEN I EMERGED, I MADE ANOTHER STARTLING DISCOVERY..."

ROVER! H-HE MUST'VE FOLLOWED ME OUT... AND NOW THAT HE'S EXPOSED TO PURE AIR AGAIN, HE'S STARTING TO GROW BACK TO HIS ORIGINAL SIZE!



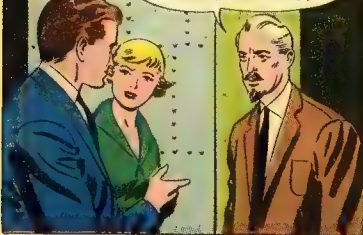
FANTASTIC!... AND THERE'S ONLY ONE REASON WHY YOU COULD'VE SENT FOR ME!

I KNOW OF NO ONE ELSE, MARK, WITH THE COURAGE TO GO AFTER THALER... AND TRY TO SAVE HIM IF HE'S STILL ALIVE!



WHAT IS YOUR PLAN, PROFESSOR?

I'VE MANAGED TO TRAP THAT CELL! WHEN YOU ARE SHRUNK TO PROPER SIZE, I WILL LOWER YOU ONTO IT WITH A PAIR OF SPECIAL PINCERS!



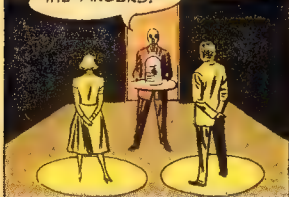
BUT REMEMBER, MARK-- THE CELL HAS A LIMITED LIFE! IT MAY BREAK UP AT ANY TIME --SO YOU MUST WORK SWIFTLY!

DON'T WORRY, PROFESSOR... I'LL SEE TO IT THAT MARK DOESN'T WASTE TIME! I'M JOINING HIM!



SHORTLY, AN AMAZING SCENE
TAKES PLACE IN THE CHAMBER...

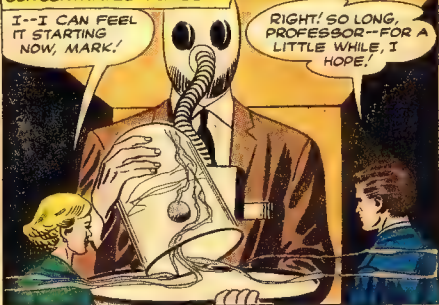
MARK--I WILL LET THE PINCERS
REMAIN AT THE EXACT SPOT
WHERE I DEPOSIT YOU. BE
THERE WHEN YOU WISH TO RETURN!
YOU MAY SIGNAL ME BY TUGGING
ON A THREAD ATTACHED TO
THE PINCERS!



AS THE PROFESSOR RELEASES SOME OF THE
CONCENTRATED FUMES...

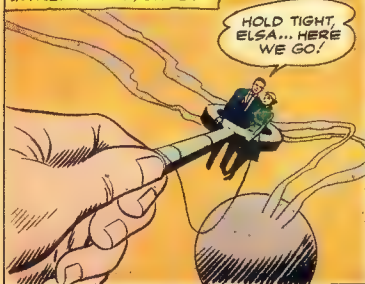
I--I CAN FEEL
IT STARTING
NOW, MARK!

RIGHT! SO LONG,
PROFESSOR--FOR A
LITTLE WHILE, I
HOPE!



SMALLER AND SMALLER GROWS THE
INTREPID PAIR, UNTIL...

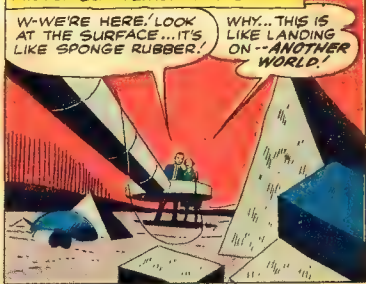
HOLD TIGHT,
ELSA... HERE
WE GO!



THE PINCERS GRIP THE DIMINUTIVE DUO
FIRMLY BUT GENTLY--AND SOON...

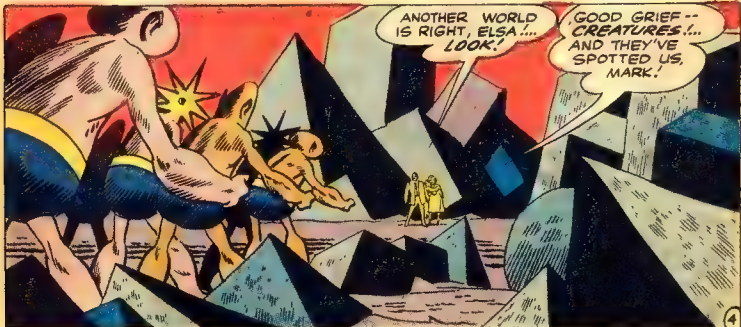
W--WE'RE HERE! LOOK
AT THE SURFACE...IT'S
LIKE SPONGE RUBBER!

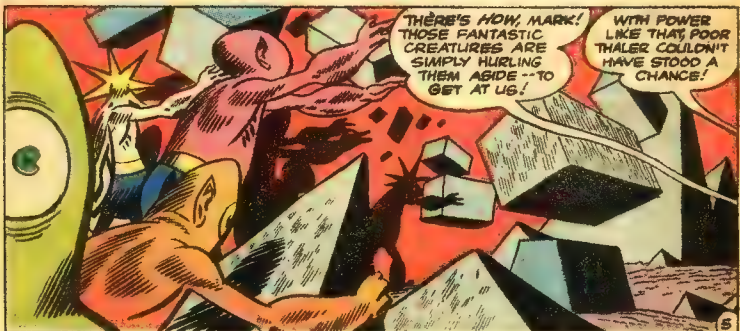
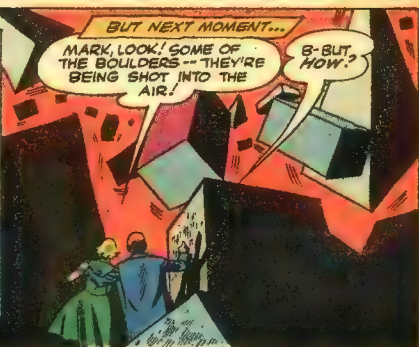
WHY...THIS IS
LIKE LANDING
ON --ANOTHER
WORLD!



ANOTHER WORLD
IS RIGHT, ELSA...
LOOK!

GOOD GRIEF --
CREATURES...
AND THEY'VE
SPOTTED US,
MARK!





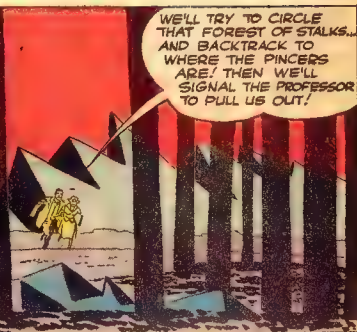


HOUSE OF SECRETS

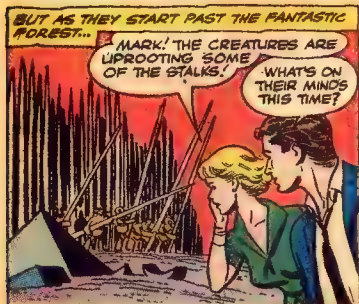


AND NEITHER WILL WE, ELSA--
IF WE DON'T GET AWAY
FROM HERE IN
A HURRY!

BUT WHERE
CAN WE GO,
MARK?



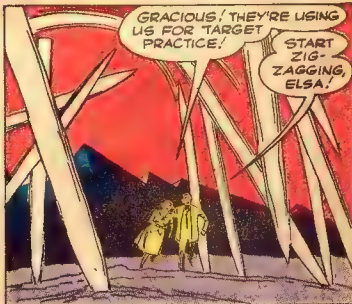
WE'LL TRY TO CIRCLE
THAT FOREST OF STALKS...
AND BACKTRACK TO
WHERE THE PINCERS
ARE! THEN WE'LL
SIGNAL THE PROFESSOR
TO PULL US OUT!



BUT AS THEY START PAST THE FANTASTIC
FOREST...

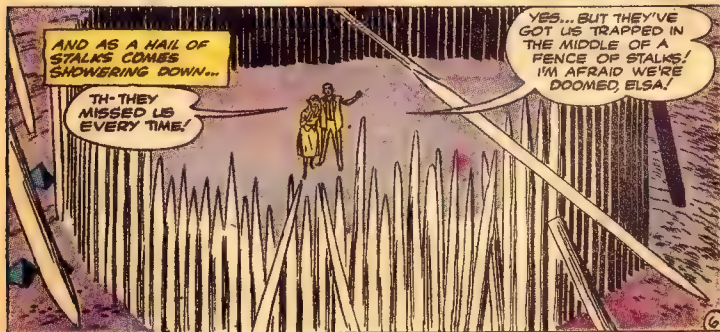
MARK! THE CREATURES ARE
UPROOTING SOME
OF THE STALKS!

WHAT'S ON
THEIR MINDS
THIS TIME?



GRACIOUS! THEY'RE USING
US FOR TARGET
PRACTICE!

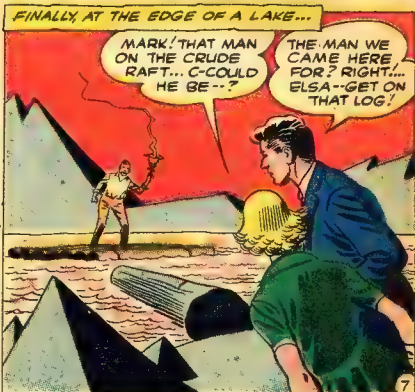
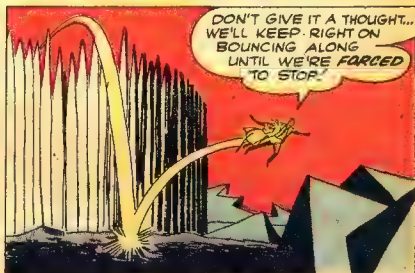
START
ZIG-
ZAGGING,
ELSA!

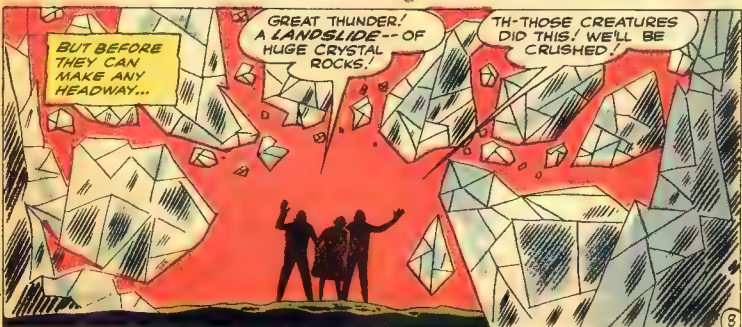
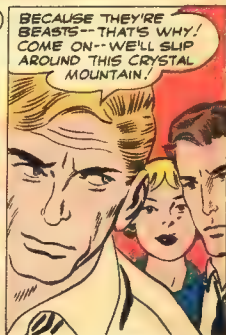
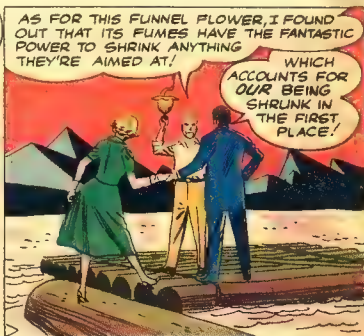
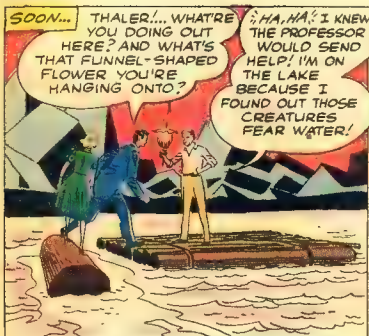


AND AS A HAIL OF
STALKS COMES
SHOWERING DOWN...

TH- THEY
MISSED US
EVERY TIME!

YES... BUT THEY'VE
GOT US TRAPPED IN
THE MIDDLE OF A
FENCE OF STALKS!
I'M AFRAID WE'RE
DOOMED, ELSA!







HOUSE OF SECRETS



IN THAT SAME INSTANT, HOWEVER...

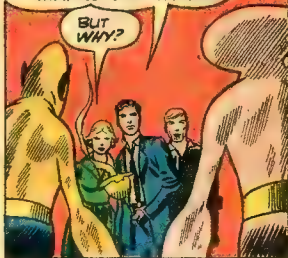
WHAT--? NOW THE CREATURES ARE HURLING THE STALKS AT THE ROCKS--CATAPULTING THEM OFF TO ONE SIDE!

B--BUT IF THEY CAN HURL THOSE STALKS WITH SUCH ACCURACY--WHY DIDN'T THEY HIT US BEFORE?



THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER... THEY WERE SIMPLY TRYING TO STOP US FROM HELPING THALER TAKE THIS FUNNEL FLOWER AWAY TO OUR WORLD!

BUT WHY?



WHO KNOWS? MAYBE IT PRODUCES THE ATMOSPHERE THEY NEED TO EXIST... OR, MAYBE, IF GROWN LARGE IN OUR ATMOSPHERE, IT WOULD SHRINK OUR EARTH TO THE SIZE OF A BALL!

TH--THEN... THEY MUST BE INTELLIGENT BEINGS!



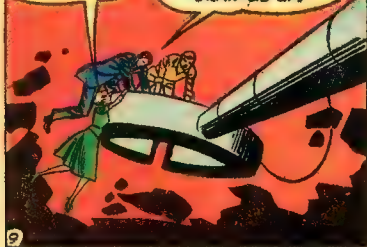
A LOT MORE INTELLIGENT THAN SOME HUMAN BEINGS, WHO CAN ONLY THINK OF GETTING RICH QUICK! COME ON--LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!



JUST AS THEY REACH THE PINCERS...

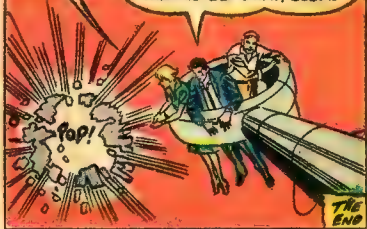
MARK! THE CELL--IT'S BEGINNING TO EXPLODE!

HURRY--ONTO THE PINCERS, I'LL SIGNAL THE PROFESSOR TO DRAW US UP!



WH--WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO THOSE CREATURES, MARK?

AS THE PROFESSOR SAID, THE CELL WILL BE REDUCED TO SUB-MICROSCOPIC SEGMENTS, AND THE CREATURES WILL BE PROPORTIONATELY REDUCED! THEY'LL BE OKAY, ELSA!



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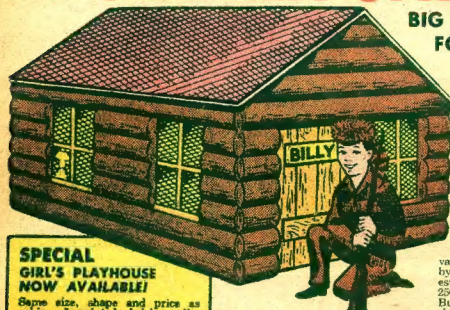
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I enclose ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ M.O. Sorry, No C.O.D.'s

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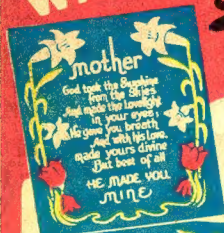
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GENUINE NICKEL SILVER SIGNET RING ABSOLUTELY FREE!

(A really terrific ring—made up with your own initial)

Also we'll mail **BIG CATALOG** showing Bikes, Dolls, Guns, Watches, etc. — You can get at no cost! You'll be tickled pink and proud as a peacock to wear this strikingly beautiful ring. Wait till you see it! And it's so easy to win. Simply check on coupon the correct names of the 4 famous American Presidents shown in the pictures above and mail to us. If you name all 4 Presidents correctly, we will send you **ABSOLUTELY FREE** your **OWN PERSONAL SIGNET RING**—made up with your own

initial (you may have your choice of first letter of either first or last name.) Also, we will send you big **FREE CATALOG** of wonderful **PREMIUMS**—Bikes, Wrist Watches, Guns, Dolls and dozens of others—and tell you how to get them at no cost! Simply offer **White CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE**, easily sold to friends, relatives and neighbors, at 50c a package, and choose your **PREMIUM** or **CASH COMMISSION**. But right now, name correctly the Presidents shown above and get your **BEAUTIFUL SIGNET RING—ABSOLUTELY FREE!** Rush coupon today!

HURRY! HURRY! CHECK YOUR ANSWERS ON THE COUPON...

Then mail coupon to win your BEAUTIFUL SIGNET RING

Win genuine nickel silver SIGNET RING—ABSOLUTELY FREE! Just name correctly the 4 famous American Presidents pictured above. Check names on coupon—fill in rest of coupon and mail to us. **IT'S EASY TO WIN—ACT NOW!**

WILSON CHEMICAL CO.
DEPT. 115-31, TYRONE, PA.

**MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!
WIN A BEAUTIFUL SIGNET RING!**

Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. 115-31, Tyrone, Pa.

Famous American Presidents shown in pictures are (check 4 only)

☐ George Washington ☐ Theodore Roosevelt ☐ Thomas Jefferson
☐ Abraham Lincoln ☐ Ulysses Grant ☐ James Madison

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NAME _____ AGE _____
STREET _____ RD. _____ BOX _____
TOWN _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

I want my Ring with this initial _____

PRINT LAST NAME HERE

Paste coupon on post card or mail in envelope today!

YOU'RE OFF to a thrilling adventure ...in the wonderful world of **FLIGHT!**

YOURS for only 10¢

this sample activity kit to acquaint you with

THE SCIENCE PROGRAM



YOU'LL "FLY" OVER TRAFFIC JAMS in this personal helicopter. Some day they may be as common as motorcycles.



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YOU'LL "WEAR" an anti-black-out suit like this high-speed maneuvers in your jet fighter.

I MAGINE the thrill of joining daring test pilots and brilliant scientists as they explore the frontiers of space!

You soar miles above the Earth in a jet plane flying four times the speed of sound — and you are at the controls! You stroll through the laboratory of a giant engineering firm, while America's top plane designers talk over the problems of conquering space. You sit in the control tower of a great airport, where hundreds of planes from all over the world are landing and taking off every day.

These are just some of the thrills that await you in the new SCIENCE PROGRAM presentation of *Flight* — yours for only 10¢. You learn about discoveries that paved the way for man's ventures into space. You'll understand how a rocket works, why helicopters can take off straight up. And you'll fly in everything from the Wright Brothers first plane to a modern jet.

Enjoy Monthly Adventures Like These

Each month this program will take you on a "guided tour" of a different field of science. One month you will see the stars and planets through the eyes of an astronomer, or marvel at the depths of the sea through the window of a bathysphere. Another time the chemist will take you into his laboratory to show you metal that burns and gas that pours. On other "field trips" your guides will be radio engineers... submarine commanders... biologists... medical researchers... map-makers.

These adventures provide a revolutionary new way to share the thrills of the space age. Each month you receive gummed, perforated sheets of full-color prints — also a beautiful, richly illustrated album with spaces reserved for mounting the pic-

tures. In addition, there will often be many interesting extra things-to-do, such as (in the *FLIGHT* set) mounting full color gummed punch-outs of World Altitude Record Vehicles on an "Ocean of Air" Chart.

An Exciting New Hobby

This exciting new hobby makes science easy and enjoyable. Your lessons come to life as the men who are creating today's space age point out the exciting news behind the scenes in every field of science.

You'll find plenty of ideas for extra-credit projects and it may spark an interest in a scientific field which can lead to an outstanding career.

MAIL COUPON NOW with only 10¢ for this introductory Activity Kit. NO obligation. But if you are delighted and wish to continue, you pay only \$1 plus shipping for each month's scientific adventure. You may cancel at any time. Address **SCIENCE PROGRAM, Dept. NCY-5, Garden City, N. Y.**

YOU GET ALL THIS FOR ONLY 10¢

- 1 Beautiful full-color prints of wonders of *FLIGHT* — jetliners, gliders, missiles, etc.
- 2 8,000-word illustrated album — crammed with information about *FLIGHT*, and with spaces in which to mount the color prints.
- 3 Big "Ocean of Air" Wall Chart, showing record altitudes reached in flight — together with full-color snap-outs of World Altitude Record Vehicles to be mounted on Chart.
- 4 Science Bulletin: Special monthly bulletin keeps

you abreast of the very newest developments.

IN ADDITION, if you decide to continue, you will receive — Free — a handsome pull-drawer library case in which to collect your albums.

SCIENCE PROGRAM

Dept. NCY-5, Garden City, N. Y.

Please rush me my introductory Science Activity Kit as described above. I enclose 10¢ to help cover shipping costs.

After examining this package, I will let you know within 10 days if I do not wish to continue. If I do continue, you will send me a new Science Activity Kit each month for only \$1 plus shipping. I am not obligated to take any minimum number of packages, and I am free to stop at any time.

Name.....

Address.....

City.....Zone.....State.....

(Parents Signature (If You Are Under 16))

(Same offer in Canada. Address 105 Bond St., Toronto 2. Offer good only in U.S.A. and Canada.)

SC-12VP

